

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 06477 211752Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 SP-02 STR-04
TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 EURE-00 SSO-00
INRE-00 AGRE-00 L-03 /066 W
-----030212 211757Z /47

O 211743Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0414
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG IMMEDIATE
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS

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USEEC

EB FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY KATZ, COMMERCE FOR ASSISTANT
SECRETARY WEIL AND STR FOR AMBASSADOR STRAUSS
LUXEMBOURG FOR PETER REAMS
PARIS ALSO FOR OECD

E.O.11652:N/A
TAGS: ETRD, EEC, FR
SUBJECT: TEXTILES: FRENCH SAFEGUARD ACTION AND MFA
MANDATE

REFS: (A) PARIS 18049; (B) GENEVA 4991; (C) BRUSSELS 6281

1. SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS WITH COMMISSION OFFICIALS ON
JUNE 20 AND 21 CONFIRM THAT COMMISSION WAS CAUGHT BY
SURPRISE BY FRENCH ANNOUNCEMENT JUNE 18 THAT IT WOULD
PLACE IMPORTS FOR TEXTILE ITEMS UNDER QUOTAS IN
ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE XIX OF THE GATT. COMMISSION
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OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN CONSULTING WITH FRENCH SINCE THEN;
A FURTHER SESSION WITH OTHER MEMBER STATES PARTICIPATING
WAS TO BEGIN AT 4:00 P.M. BRUSSELS TIME JUNE 21.

2. COMMISSION OPINION AT THIS POINT SEEMS TO BE THAT
FRENCH ACTION SHOULD BE SEEN AS A POLITICAL GESTURE
DESIGNED TO APPEASE DOMESTIC TEXTILE MANUFACTURERS.

FURTHER TO THAT, INITIAL COMMISSION ANALYSIS IS THAT TRADE IMPACT OF ANNOUNCED QUOTAS WOULD BE NEGLIGIBLE IF, AS COMMISSION ASSUMES, QUOTAS WOULD NOT BE APPLIED EITHER TO ASSOCIATED COUNTRIES OR THOSE LDCS WHO HAVE NEGOTIATED BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH THE EC UNDER THE MFA.

3. AS REPORTED REF C, EC COUNCIL HAD BEEN EXPECTED TO APPROVE A MANDATE FOR RENEWAL OF THE MFA ON JUNE 21 WITHOUT DISCUSSION. ALTHOUGH IT REMAINS POSSIBLE THAT THIS TIMETABLE WILL BE UPSET, COMMISSION OFFICIALS DO NOT THINK THIS WILL BE THE CASE. THEY BELIEVE THAT FRENCH GOVERNMENT WILL GO ALONG WITH MANDATE APPROVAL IN LUXEMBOURG COUNCIL AS ANTICIPATED.

4. MOST COMMISSION OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT FRENCH ACTION IN INVOKING ARTICLE XIX IS AT BEST OF QUESTIONABLE LEGALITY UNDER THE TREATY OF ROME. NEVERTHELESS, PREVALENT THINKING IS TO FIND A WAY TO CLOAK THE FRENCH ACTION UNDER A COMMUNITY MANTLE IF THIS IS THE PRICE THAT MUST BE PAID TO GET FRENCH APPROVAL OF AN EC MANDATE FOR THE MFA.

5. TRAN VAN THINH, EC SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS, IS ANXIOUS TO MEET WITH MIKE SMITH AND US TEXTILE TEAM IN GENEVA ON JUNE 22 TO DISCUSS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FRENCH DEVELOPMENTS AND EC POSITION ON MFA RENEWAL.

6. WE HAVE JUST LEARNED THAT COUNCIL DID APPROVE MFA MANDATE ON JUNE 21. HINTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXTILES, IMPORT CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BRUSSE06477
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770221-0673
Format: TEL
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770637/aaaabfyr.tel
Line Count: 97
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a75a6479-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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TAGS: ETRD, FR, EEC
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